

2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

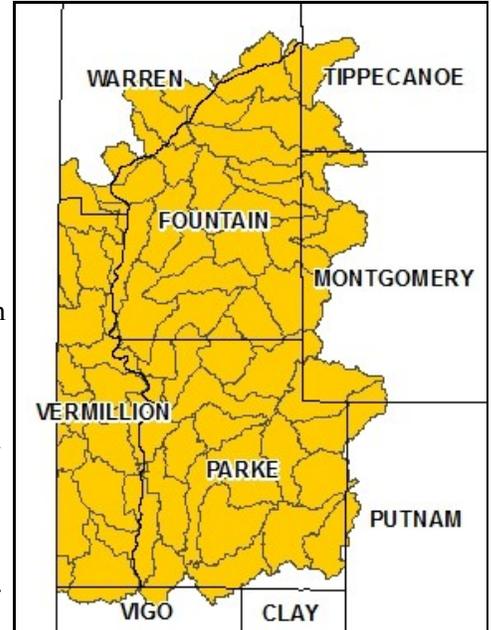
LEAD DISTRICT: VERMILLION
 COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: FOUNTAIN, PARKE, MONTGOMERY
 TARGET WATERSHEDS: MIDDLE WABASH-LITTLE VERMILLION, SUGAR, VERMILLION, MIDDLE WABASH-BUSSERON
 PROJECT NAME: TRI-COUNTY WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT
 PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2014
 PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,000



Purpose: Reduce soil quality degradation and improve water quality

The Tri-County Watersheds Improvement Project is a three year endeavor to reduce soil quality degradation and improve water quality. Both concerns will be addressed with a combination of increasing conservation tillage and the use of cover crops and no-till and encouraging participation in programs that improve water quality such as the Healthy Rivers Initiative, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP).

Our project will focus on using a contracted Conservation Cropping Systems Specialist to give direct professional assistance to targeted land users. This specialist, with the support of the Conservation Cropping System Initiative, will meet with individuals and provide on-site assistance to plan and implement best management practices. They will also supply any technical assistance that individuals might need as they transition. Through one-on-one interactions and small group meetings he will be able to assist these land users in analyzing the results of comparison plots and other cost-share programs funded with the CWI grant.



YEAR ONE ACTIVITIES:

NEW NO-TILL ACRES: 2,600
 NEW COVER CROP ACRES: 7,150
 ACRES IMPACTED: 74,200

By partnering with other organizations, field day participants were eligible for PARP, CCA and CCH credits.

